

First Unitarian of NJ
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

April 11th, 2021

Sunday, 5 pm

Meeting held via Zoom

Board Members in Attendance:

Chris Baglieri- President
Mike Sutterlin- Vice President
Sarah Muller-Robbins- Secretary
Cass Cochrane- Trustee
Kim Mitchell- Trustee
Guenevere Zucker- Trustee
Denise Soppas- Trustee

Minister Present: Rev Ann Marie Alderman

Board Members Absent: None

Chalice Lighting: Mike

Reading of Board Covenant: All

Meeting Agenda: Approved by all, with addition of Cass discussing the service auction

Consent Agenda: Minister's Report, President's Report, 8th Principle Report, March 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes (with amendments previously identified via email). Approved by all

Action Items from March 14th Board Meeting were reviewed

New and old items remaining to be completed are listed in Action items at end of minutes

Old Business

- Discussion of new board members. Option of reducing board size to 5, but may be too much for each member. Denise considering serving a second term- would like to continue her work on the 8th Principle. Kim interested in a membership role.
- Board minute is a shared, live document. See for updates each week.

Budget and Finance

- Cass reported on outstanding pledges- Board members can help with phone calls to those who have not yet pledged with script. Ann Marie to send out an email, then calls to members who have not yet pledged.
- Budget: in good shape.
- Service auction continuing along.
- Upcoming Share the Plate applications- no submissions. Potentials include:
 - Campaign Zero as a backup
 - Valerie Soup Kitchen, local food delivery service
 - Women League of Voters

- Organization supporting Black maternal health

8th Principle Group Report: Denise submitted via email

- Denise sent out a detailed letter to review text in detail.
- Discussion of use of BIPOC vs. “people of color”.
- Service scheduled on the 25th to be led by Denise and Charlie.
- Link in Denise’s report on studying white supremacy culture
- Will schedule 8th Principle discussion during Board meetings (rather than separate), starting next month

New Business

- Slack to be used for communication as we work on Board planning.

Action Items Assigned

- Board members will add personal testimonial blurb about pledges in Board Minute (“why I pledge”), starting next week
- Board members to use live doc for updated Board minute
- Chris will discuss options for welcoming new members virtually with worship committee
- Anyone not on the Slack will contact Chris.
- Chris to contact Rev. Dave regarding rent
- Submit Share the Plate requests: Sarah for Black Maternal health org, Ann Marie for Valerie’s Soup Kitchen and local food delivery service, Charlie (via Denise) for Campaign Zero and League of Women Voters
- Chris will write email to remind congregants of pledging, Ann Marie to send out via Breeze. A week later, Cass will share contacts with Board members to contact people directly.

Calendar Items

- Next Board Meeting: May 9th, 2021
 - Chalice Lighting at Board Meeting:
- Board Minute Speakers
 - 4/11 - Guen
 - 4/18 - Cass
 - 4/25 - Sarah
 - 5/2 - Mike
 - 5/9 - Kim
 - 5/16 – Denise
 - 5/23 - Chris
- 5/16 – present the budget to the congregation
- 5/23 - Annual Meeting

Meeting Adjourned: 5:55 pm- Chris made motion to adjourn. All approved.

Prepared by: Sarah Muller-Robbins